The Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District

Merrick Avenue Middle School

Summer Reading Program

June 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the **Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District Summer Reading Program**. Summer should be filled with joyful times, and we hope that reading will be an important part of your child’s summer plans. Reading is an integral part of student success and personal growth. While reading, we often lose ourselves in books, but we often find ourselves there as well. To this end, we strongly encourage all students to read beyond the required summer reading selection. We also encourage all students to obtain a library card from the local library and to download and set up ***OverDrive***, an app which allows students to borrow e-books from the library.

In the spirit of our school’s philosophy, we are excited to announce our summer reading selection for the 2018-2019 school year:

***nine, ten: A September 11Story* by Nora Raleigh Baskin**

This novel will be used to introduce all 7th graders to the MAMS P.R.I.D.E. philosophy and frame the instructional themes of the upcoming school year. As your child transitions to becoming a member of our school community, we look forward to immediately incorporating this book into his or her English classroom. This common read format will help to increase participation and create a community of readers. The novel’s themes reflect coming of age, interconnectivity, and community. Through class discussions and lessons, students will have the opportunity to thoroughly analyze the text and to exchange ideas and opinions focusing on the qualities of Patience, Responsibility, Integrity, Dedication, and Empathy—also known as our school philosophy, P.R.I.D.E.

In an effort to focus students’ attention to author’s craft, we have included a brief assignment for your child to complete while reading *nine, ten: A September 11 Story*. **All students entering grade 7 are required to read the novel and complete the accompanying assignment (yellow sheet enclosed). This assignment will be used to discuss the novel in September and it will be collected on Friday, September 14th. All students will be given a graded assignment on their summer reading in September.**

We look forward to discussing ***nine, ten: A September 11 Story*** with your child. Welcome to Merrick Avenue!